

A Good Letter From Louisiana.

Dear Reader:

Our Baptist affairs in Louisiana are moving on with some interest. Changes are being made in our educational interests, churches, and mission work. As you see from the papers our two institutions of learning, *Mount Lebanon University* and *Keachi College* will both open the next session with new Presidents. Both schools claim to have closed very prosperous sessions and are ready to give the new management a hearty opening.

Mount Lebanon has drawn upon our Texas brethren and brought over our Bro. G. W. Griffin, from Longview and Keachi has captured our Financial Secretary, Rev. C. W. Tomkins.

These new men will find a good deal to stimulate them in the thought that they are succeeding men who did a good work last session. It is said that Prof. G. W. Griffin, closed one of the best sessions in the history of Keachi. He will be retained in the faculty.

President W. M. Reese, shows a multiplication of his students a larger number than was ever enrolled in one year at Mt. Lebanon. He declines to remain connected in any way with the school.

Our churches are making changes, some of them right off and some retain their old pastors, preferring not to try the new.

There is a measure of prosperity in some of our churches which is really encouraging. It is pleasant to know that pastor P. J. Loftis, of Stone- wall, La., who gives his whole time to Salem, and Sammie Groves, churches is having his heart gladdened at the time nearly with a revival spirit. He is an humble lovely man. Then there are members of churches in the north La., without pastor or supply. It is reported that several members are coming into our state and there is plenty of room and we will give them a hearty welcome.

We will have no right easy places placed for men whose minds are made up to work the way to open.

Our *Baptist Church* is holding its own and I hope is rising ground. The Editor has taken a "helpmate" for himself and she will be seen to put into his paper and editor, May 20th, 1888.

The *mission work* is increasing in interest and will continue to do so. We let money when Bro. Tomkins announced his intention to give it up but the Lord always has men for his work and the Lord without delay has put Rev. J. T. Barrett, late of Mississippi in the place vacated by the resignation of Bro. Tomkins and while it will take a little time to learn the situation, our people are hopeful that the work will be pushed vigorously on.

Rev. E. C. Ware, one of our missionaries is arranging to build three houses of worship. Rev. O. P. Miles, of Arkansas, completed a new house. The brethren at H. Ashton have had their church building nearly completed twice and have it been taken down. They are trying again. Rev. T. B. Harrell at Roston is having reported baptisms and Dr. A. S. P. of Shreveport has baptized a number of persons this summer.

Sometimes the question is asked "What effect will so many changes have upon our general work?" Well, it need not have any disastrous effect. Changes must come, it is hard to give up old friends, but new ones come in their places, and they soon get to know you.

"Foster in the *Church*" this week Dr. J. P. Everett is asking "Dr. F. Courtney, to inform us through the *Baptist Church* what is that 'narrow rut of sectarian bigotry' out of which Dr. Pennick has elevated the Baptist denomination of the State." Dr. Everett says that he is ignorant of any narrow rut of sectarian bigotry out of which the denomination has been lifted. Several thousand of us are in the same condition with Rev. Everett, Louisiana Baptists have been wont to work on a "straight and narrow line" but a scriptural one we think and live in it with us. We live Dr. Pennick for his work sake, and recognize him as being in the very front rank of Louisiana preachers but really didn't know he had pulled us out of our narrow rut of sectarian bigotry. Bro. Courtney is a noble good man and in his enthusiasm for a brilliant preacher let his pen put it on a little too thick in places. It will all come right. Louisiana is in harness and wants to work for Christ.

Our Convention meets this year at Lake Charles, La., on the night of Aug. 2, when Rev. G. M. Harrell, preacher, the Convention sermon or his alternate Rev. H. C. Finley. Some Mississippi brethren can get there easier than some of us. We want the Record Editors to be there. Come over and help us.

G. H. HARTFIELD.

At Lake Charles, La.

RELEA MOUNTAIN COMMENCEMENT.

We are just through with commencement and we are tired. Our new catalogues are out and will show the following statistics:

Total membership of students on roll, 229.
 Teaching students, 127.
 Boarding students, 120.
 Art, 38.
 Education, 38.
 Graduates in Music, 2.
 We have been provided all the year and have done well in our work and have improved our buildings.
 Our closing exercises opened with a concert on the night of the 12th. It was running, but the house was "packed." The programme opened with a welcome chorus by our College choir and orchestra. Our orchestra is composed of twenty-two instruments and makes an attractive feature on concert occasions. The

strings, though, could not stand the dampness of the night and all stringed instruments had to be laid aside after the first piece.

On Thursday morning came the contest, by seven members of the election class, for the President's Medal. The committee reported a case of "diamond cut diamond" but awarded the medal to Miss Besse Eastland, of Forrest, Miss.

At 11 o'clock the annual address was delivered by Rev. W. C. Lattimore, of Starkville. "Elegant and eloquent" remarked one intelligent hearer and nobody accused him of being extravagant.

The Address was appointed for 3:30 p. m., and Rev. B. D. Gray, of Hattiesburg, had been chosen as the speaker. He was kept at home, however, by the sickness of one of his members and we were disappointed. In place of his address, came some songs by our vocal teacher, Miss Dunaway, of Va.

On Thursday night nine young ladies were graduated in the Literary courses and two in Piano music. The music graduates were Misses Lilla Childs, of Jackson and Trudie Lowry, of Forrest. The Literary graduates were as follows: English course: Misses Lida Dabbs, of Quitman, Willie Trotter, of Bolton, Drucilla Swain, of Hattiesburg, Maggie Eaton, of Hattiesburg, Trudie Lowry, of Forrest and Sarah Sasser, of Middleton, Tenn.

Full Course: Miss Agnes Durham, of Blue Mountain, and Misses Nellie and Lottie Jennings, of Water Valley.

The following medals were awarded:
 Medal for best Recitation, at Commencement, by the President, to Miss Besse Eastland, Forrest, Miss. First medal in Art, by Miss Ella Berry, to Miss Mollie Lee, Raymond, Miss.

Second medal in Art, by Miss Ella Berry, to Miss Lilla Childs, Jackson, Miss.

For best marks in Elocution, by Miss Jennie Jarman, to Miss Anna Lou Spight, Salsburg, Tenn.

Theory of music by Prof. Baars, to Miss Lottie Jennings, Hattiesburg, Miss.

History, by Rev. J. D. Anderson and wife, to Miss Cora Hellums, Pine Bluff, Ark.

Spelling, by the Lady Principal, to Miss Ella Tolin, Belcham, Miss.

Neatest rooms, by Dr. A. R. McWilliams, to Misses Mollie and Candace Butler, King Miss, and Misses Lilla and Chantilly Drummonds, Westville, Miss.

On Friday morning the girls left by a special train which our kind railroad superintendent had prepared for the rally of the hammers and saws on our new buildings. Blue Mountain would seem like a deserted village.

W. T. LOWRY.

June 17th.

DECEASED.

At the request of Mountain Creek Baptist Church, Bethany, C. R. Freeman, S. B. Williamson and A. H. Edmundson, met for the purpose of obtaining Bro. W. H. Williams, to the full work of the gospel ministry.

The Presbytery was organized by electing Eld. C. B. Freeman, President.

The Presbytery proceeded to examine the candidate upon his experience of grace, call to the Ministry, views of scripture, of Godhead, full of man, total depravity, Work of Holy Spirit in regeneration.

Election. Call of Holy Spirit, Justification, Preservation of the Sanctification, Future state. The church of Christ and its ordinances.

The examination being satisfactory the church ordered the Presbytery to proceed with the ordination.

The ordination was presided over by Elder A. H. Edmundson. From the subject, Faithfulness, Text 1 Tim. 4:12.

Ordination prayer by Eld. S. M. Williamson, and laying on of hands by Presbytery.

Benediction by the candidate.

W. E. DEAN, Secretary.

QUESTIONS.

"Is the modern dance an evil?" If so, what should be done with a church member, and especially with a minister who tolerates it and encourages it by his influence? Let us hear from Bro. Sample on this question.

CONSERVATIVE.

"Is the modern dance an evil?" No. The evil is not in the dance, dancing in hearts of those who do the dancing. The ball room is the devil's institution, and serves a good purpose in that, that it enables the church to know who is following the devil and who is following Christ. The ball room is Christ's enemy. No one who loves Christ can enjoy the association with his enemy.

No one ever gets his knees before going to the dance and asked God to bless it to the good of his soul.

No one ever went to the dance to glorify God.

No Christian ever went to the dance, without coming away feeling as mean as the man who had shamed his best friend. No one ever came away from the dance happy, but a child of the devil.

They say they "cannot see any harm in it" this is because they have on the devil's eye glasses. Put on the eye glasses of Christ and the evil will be manifest.

In the language of Sam. Jones, I would say to those who love the dance, go ahead, dance all you can where it is not too hot to dance. "What should be done with the church members?" If the repents (i. e., "quits his business") forgive him, especially with the minister who tolerates it" etc.

I regret to have to say that it is

out of my power to give anything like an intelligent answer to that part of the query, unless I knew what he was a minister of.

Yours,
 J. R. SAMPLE.
 Summit, Miss., June 9, 1888.

Vossburg and Back.

We waked up Bro. Voss, at his hotel about 1 a. m. He showed us a room and we slept until the breakfast bell announced readiness of the morning meal. The family were kind, and our good friend took us to the Queen and Crescent springs in his own buggy. Capt. Stafford received us courteously and his interesting family cared for us hospitably.

On Saturday morning we penned an article for the Southern Baptist Review on "Disappointments." Later we concluded to start for "home again." Mr. Johnston cleverly put us back in Vossburg; an unusually hard rain came near keeping us there.

Between showers, we managed to reach the depot, catching up with Elder G. W. Knight, making for the station. On the train we met Evangelist Litch, who was en route for Pichota to hold a meeting.

Elder Knight, expected to be over Lord's Day at Pichota, to assist in the ordination of deacon Lee, we think, and Elder Rogers, he was to go from there to Shubuta to conduct a protracted meeting. Of these full reports will be received in time, we presume.

After an absence of less than five days, four being at the Springs, we were in Meridian again. Showers continued, though Sunday morning was clear and pleasant, and Sunday schools and church services were well attended.

L. A. D.

A GOOD SHOWING.

OF FACTS AND FIGURES.

The following is a statement of the sales of Baptist books and periodicals made by the Branch house, at Atlanta, of the American Baptist Publication Society during the months of April and May, and five days in June, 1888, and also during the same months and days in 1887. The facts are very suggestive, and we see no reason why they should be kept secret; they are part of our denominational history.

Sales for April, 1888, \$33,432.79.

Sales for April, 1887, \$27,580.06.

Net increase of 1888 over 1887, \$5,852.73.

Sales for May, 1888, \$33,432.79.

Sales for May, 1887, \$27,580.06.

Net increase of 1888 over 1887, \$5,852.73.

Sales in first five days of June, 1888, \$1,106.17.

Sales in first five days of June, 1887, \$752.00.

Net increase for the five days, \$354.17.

By adding the figures of net increase together it will be seen that the total increase for two months and five days is \$1,757.94. The gross amount of sales for the last two months and five days is \$7,756.88.

The free circulation of wholesome religious literature among Christian people is not unlike the prevalence of pure air for physical well being. It is so.

DIED.

Jinny Herring, at Laurel, Miss., June 1, 1888, at the residence of her son, S. B. Herring, aged 99 years. In 1841 she united with Pleasant Hill Baptist church in Clarke county, Miss., and was baptized by Eld. T. B. Hosh, Sept. 1861. She remained a worthy member of the same church until her death. She leaves three sons and two daughters to mourn her loss. To the bereaved ones, we tender our sympathy and say, sorrow not as those who have no hope. Farewell dear sister, it was our exalted privilege to love and respect thee in life, it is our sad duty to mourn thee in death in the morning of the resurrection we will meet on the other shore.

A FRIEND.

MARRIED.

At Heidelberg, Miss., June 9, 1888, by Eld. J. M. Long, E. A. White, Esq., and Miss Mary V. Mixon, both of Jasper county.

Joiner, Murphy, in Sherman, Texas, in the Baptist church on Tuesday evening, 11th inst., by C. B. Freeman, Mr. James Joiner, of McKinney, Tex., formerly of Starkville, Miss., and Miss Mattie Murphy, of Sherman, Tex., formerly of Tripelo, Miss.

C. B. F.

Steno Creek, Miss., June 2, 1888.

SECULAR DEPARTMENT.

ADVERTISING RATES.

One line, 100 words, 10 cents; 200 words, 15 cents; 300 words, 20 cents; 400 words, 25 cents; 500 words, 30 cents; 600 words, 35 cents; 700 words, 40 cents; 800 words, 45 cents; 900 words, 50 cents; 1,000 words, 55 cents; 1,100 words, 60 cents; 1,200 words, 65 cents; 1,300 words, 70 cents; 1,400 words, 75 cents; 1,500 words, 80 cents; 1,600 words, 85 cents; 1,700 words, 90 cents; 1,800 words, 95 cents; 1,900 words, 1.00; 2,000 words, 1.05; 2,100 words, 1.10; 2,200 words, 1.15; 2,300 words, 1.20; 2,400 words, 1.25; 2,500 words, 1.30; 2,600 words, 1.35; 2,700 words, 1.40; 2,800 words, 1.45; 2,900 words, 1.50; 3,000 words, 1.55; 3,100 words, 1.60; 3,200 words, 1.65; 3,300 words, 1.70; 3,400 words, 1.75; 3,500 words, 1.80; 3,600 words, 1.85; 3,700 words, 1.90; 3,800 words, 1.95; 3,900 words, 2.00; 4,000 words, 2.05; 4,100 words, 2.10; 4,200 words, 2.15; 4,300 words, 2.20; 4,400 words, 2.25; 4,500 words, 2.30; 4,600 words, 2.35; 4,700 words, 2.40; 4,800 words, 2.45; 4,900 words, 2.50; 5,000 words, 2.55; 5,100 words, 2.60; 5,200 words, 2.65; 5,300 words, 2.70; 5,400 words, 2.75; 5,500 words, 2.80; 5,600 words, 2.85; 5,700 words, 2.90; 5,800 words, 2.95; 5,900 words, 3.00; 6,000 words, 3.05; 6,100 words, 3.10; 6,200 words, 3.15; 6,300 words, 3.20; 6,400 words, 3.25; 6,500 words, 3.30; 6,600 words, 3.35; 6,700 words, 3.40; 6,800 words, 3.45; 6,900 words, 3.50; 7,000 words, 3.55; 7,100 words, 3.60; 7,200 words, 3.65; 7,300 words, 3.70; 7,400 words, 3.75; 7,500 words, 3.80; 7,600 words, 3.85; 7,700 words, 3.90; 7,800 words, 3.95; 7,900 words, 4.00; 8,000 words, 4.05; 8,100 words, 4.10; 8,200 words, 4.15; 8,300 words, 4.20; 8,400 words, 4.25; 8,500 words, 4.30; 8,600 words, 4.35; 8,700 words, 4.40; 8,800 words, 4.45; 8,900 words, 4.50; 9,000 words, 4.55; 9,100 words, 4.60; 9,200 words, 4.65; 9,300 words, 4.70; 9,400 words, 4.75; 9,500 words, 4.80; 9,600 words, 4.85; 9,700 words, 4.90; 9,800 words, 4.95; 9,900 words, 5.00; 10,000 words, 5.05; 10,100 words, 5.10; 10,200 words, 5.15; 10,300 words, 5.20; 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15,400 words, 7.75; 15,500 words, 7.80; 15,600 words, 7.85; 15,700 words, 7.90; 15,800 words, 7.95; 15,900 words, 8.00; 16,000 words, 8.05; 16,100 words, 8.10; 16,200 words, 8.15; 16,300 words, 8.20; 16,400 words, 8.25; 16,500 words, 8.30; 16,600 words, 8.35; 16,700 words, 8.40; 16,800 words, 8.45; 16,900 words, 8.50; 17,000 words, 8.55; 17,100 words, 8.60; 17,200 words, 8.65; 17,300 words, 8.70; 17,400 words, 8.75; 17,500 words, 8.80; 17,600 words, 8.85; 17,700 words, 8.90; 17,800 words, 8.95; 17,900 words, 9.00; 18,000 words, 9.05; 18,100 words, 9.10; 18,200 words, 9.15; 18,300 words, 9.20; 18,400 words, 9.25; 18,500 words, 9.30; 18,600 words, 9.35; 18,700 words, 9.40; 18,800 words, 9.45; 18,900 words, 9.50; 19,000 words, 9.55; 19,100 words, 9.60; 19,200 words, 9.65; 19,300 words, 9.70; 19,400 words, 9.75; 19,500 words, 9.80; 19,600 words, 9.85; 19,700 words, 9.90; 19,800 words, 9.95; 19,900 words, 10.00; 20,000 words, 10.05; 20,100 words, 10.10; 20,200 words, 10.15; 20,300 words, 10.20; 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